

KANEOHE COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
45-661 Keneke Street  
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

March 30, 1973

The Honorable Kenneth Brown, Chairman,  
and Members of the  
Senate Ecological Committee  
Seventh State Legislature  
State of Hawaii  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Mr. Chairman and Members:

The Kaneohe Community Council has in the past supported community action taken favoring the preservation of our historical sites and we again appear before your honorable body to request that it take the necessary action to place the Heela Fishpond in preservation, primarily because of its historical importance to the State of Hawaii and because it has been declared a National Historical Site and important to our Nation. Therefore, the Kaneohe Community Council supports Senate Resolution 136.

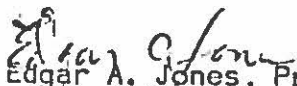
As the voice of the majority of the Kaneohe citizenry, Kaneohe Community Council has for many years been a strong advocate for the preservation of our most precious body of water, that of Kaneohe Bay. If the Heela Fishpond is allowed to be developed urban, then we might as well give up the idea of trying to save Kaneohe Bay.

We do not intend to let Kaneohe Bay further deteriorate. We shall endeavor to persuade our governmental leaders to support our efforts in trying to save not only the Heela Fishpond but Kaneohe Bay as well.

Thank you for the privilege and pleasure afforded me as the representative of the Kaneohe Community Council of the opportunity to appear before your honorable body.

With warm regards.

Aloha,

  
Edgar A. Jones, President  
Kaneohe Community Council

EAJ:hc

Senator Kenneth Brown, Chairman  
and Members of the  
Senate Committee on Ecology, Environment, and Recreation  
Seventh State Legislature

Gentlemen:

Subject: Sen. Res. 136

As a representative of the Recreation Committee of the Kaneohe Community Council, I should like to speak in favor of Senate Resolution 136.

Heeia Fishpond is to all of the people of Hawaii too valuable an asset to be used for a mere housing development. Of the remaining fishponds on Oahu, it is the most accessible and visible, as well, as being situated contiguously with other areas long considered for cultural and recreational use.

We enthusiastically endorse the 1966 proposal of the City and County Parks and Recreation Department for a botanical and biological park in the immediate pond vicinity. We also support many of the broader goals of that same proposal-- (entitled Kaneohe Bay Sea Oriented Recreation Center)--which includes Kealahi (Matson) point, as well as a modified Heeia Kea Boat Harbor and park, as components of a unified cultural and recreational area of major proportions.

Here, too, could be centered much of the Windward-side canoe paddling activity. As an expansion, perhaps, of Ulu Mau Village, there could be developed a living museum of Pacific Island canoe building and sailing, of ancient fishing techniques, and of shoreside housing and cooking methods. Also, there might be a gallery of Polynesian marine art, including a permanent repository for the outstanding collection of canoe paintings by Herb Kane. The boat harbor at Heeia Kea graphically would emphasize Hawaii's continuing relationship with and dependence upon the sea.

More detail of such possibilities has been set down in my own proposal for Kaneohe Bay and for the Cook Bicentennial entitled Voyagers Park.

We are not asking for the fishpond and surrounding shoreside to be returned to conservation merely to prevent its use for a housing development and boat garage--although that goal in itself would be worthwhile. Rather, we think of the pond as a priceless cultural diamond to be polished and placed in a suitable setting which dramatically and actively will bring to future generations a deeper appreciation for Hawaii's unique maritime history.

Ted Livingston